

Boston Harbor Islands Advisory Council
Meeting Minutes
Boston Society of Architects, 290 Congress St, Channel Room, Boston, MA
Wednesday, June 5, 2013, 4:00 PM – 6:00 PM

Maureen Cavanaugh, Vice-Chair, opened the meeting and welcomed all. Council and audience members introduced themselves. Maureen gave thanks to Bruce for his guidance and for his service to the park. She presented him with a commemorative plaque on behalf of the Advisory Council. Bruce said his last day will be July 12, and that he has taken a position as Senior Consultant for Heritage Partners.

Maureen also presented an award to Carl Johnson for his steadfast participation in the work of the Advisory Council since the inaugural years, and his commitment to the islands.

Pedlocks Island as seen from Pemberton Point

Maureen Cavanaugh introduced John Galluzzo, author, educator, and historian who gave a presentation about Pedlocks Island's past and present.

Boston University Advisory Plan

Hugh Hawthorne gave a recap of the *Boston Harbor Islands Advisory Plan* that Boston University graduate students from the Master of City Planning and Urban Affairs Symposium Team presented at the Advisory Council meeting held on May 21, 2013. The plan was the product of an in-depth review of the Boston Harbor Islands General Management Plan and can be found at: <http://www.nps.gov/boha/parkmgmt/planning-documents.htm>..

Advisory Council members discussed the Advisory Plan. Members asked if the ideas presented would be acted upon. Bruce Jacobson replied that the project was a useful exercise and the document will help inform the incoming superintendent. He also said that the NPS is moving away from the development of general management plans and towards the creation of Foundation Statements as the students recommended.

Ask the Superintendent

Bruce Jacobson responded to several questions. He said that the NPS hopes to have a new superintendent in place by mid-October. Bruce said that there will be an Acting Superintendent in place for the time in between his departure and the start of the new Superintendent. Kelly Fellner, Youth and Volunteer Coordinator for the Northeast Region, was chosen as the Acting Superintendent. She has experience working on the islands, and other NPS sites in Massachusetts, New York, and Colorado. Bruce said a NPS transition assessment team will be coming to the park the week of July 21, to interview staff and partners. He invited all to a special workshop on July 22, specifically for the Advisory Council members to work with the team.

By the end of that week, the team will prepare recommendations for the Northeast Regional Director to help inform their choice of a new superintendent. The report will also help inform the incoming superintendent about issues facing the park. Bruce suggested that Council members that cannot attend the workshop share their thoughts in writing and submit to Dennis Reidenback, Northeast Regional Director, and to Michael Caldwell, Northeast Regional Deputy Director. Advisory Council members expressed opinions that this very complex park would not do well with a very traditional, autocratic superintendent, and instead needs an inspirational leader that wants to - and actually enjoys - working in partnerships.

Bruce invited all to visit the new office space at 15 State Street, and announced an upcoming Open House.

Other Updates

The U.S. Postal Service is issuing 5 commemorative lighthouse stamps, one of which features Boston Light. The unveiling will happen at the Boston Harbor Islands Pavilion on July 1.

Yurts are going up on Peddocks Island and will be ready for camping season.

Mary Raczko, NPS, reminded all that there are currently 6 vacancies on the Council and that 8 members terms will expire in 2014.

Public Comment

Suzanne Gall Marsh, Friends of the Boston Harbor Islands, asked when the current ferry contract expires and if a RFP will be issued. Bruce responded that the current contract runs through the 2014 season the water transportation sub-committee, now chaired by Phil Griffiths is discussing options.

National Park Service and Boston Harbor Island Alliance offices will be moving to 15 State Street at the end of April.

The meeting was adjourned at 7:55 pm.

Boston Harbor Islands Advisory Council
6/5/13 Meeting Attendees

MEMBERS PRESENT (X)

1. John Anderson	X
2. Jennifer Bender	
3. Nancy Callanan	
4. Maureen Cavanaugh, Vice-Chair	X
5. Lou Gainor	
6. Megan Glenn	
7. Walter Hope	
8. Mel Harris	
9. Kelly Hurstak*	X
10. Carl Johnson	X
11. Rick Kasseli	
12. Dale Linder	X
13. Jim Martel	X
14. Rob Moir, Chair	
15. Charlie Norris	X
16. Jim Peters	X
17. Bill Reardon	X
18. Peter Rosen	
19. Jay Schmidt	
20. Elizabeth Solomon	X
21. Lauri Webster	
22. Matt Wolfe	
23. Vacant Seat, Community	
24. Vacant Seat, Community	
25. Vacant Seat, Community	
26. Vacant Seat, Municipalities	
27. Vacant Seat, Native American	
28. Vacant Seat, Native American	

*pending member

OTHERS PRESENT

[illegible]

BHIA – Boston Harbor Island Alliance
DCR – Department of Conservation and Recreation
NPS – National Park Service
TIOBEC-Thompson Island Outward Bound Education Center

****Emeritus Council Member**